श्री दिग्विजय सिंह: जो आपके कब्जे में है, उसका क्या होगा? चुनाव के समय आपने दिल्ली में ...(**व्यवधान**)... करवा दिया था।

श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल: आप भी किसी न किसी राज्य से बिलोंग करते हैं, कभी न कभी ऐसी परिस्थितियां प्रत्येक राज्य में उत्पन्न होती है, जब हथियार जमा कराना उचित जान पड़ता है। अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपसे यही अनुरोध करूंगा और माननीय सदस्य से कहना चाहूंगा कि जिस राज्य से वे बिलोंग करते हैं, ये उस राज्य सरकार से कह सकते हैं कि वह कोई ऐसा कानून बनाए कि कभी भी हथियार न जमा कराना पड़े।

श्री महेन्द्र मोहन: आप राज्य सरकारों को निर्देश दे सकते हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, do not interrupt.

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह: लेकिन दिल्ली तो इनके पास है।

श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल: अध्यक्ष महोदय, समस्या यह है कि कभी न कभी ऐसी परिस्थितियां आती हैं, जब राज्य सरकारों को हथियारों को जमा कराने के लिए मजबूर होना पड़ता है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 222. Shri V. Hanumantha Rao.

New Task Force to tackle terror and naxals

*222. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:††
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prime Minister has desired that a new Task Force should be set up to tackle terror and naxals;

(b) whether Government has now agreed to set up a Task Force headed by the National Security Adviser to go into the emerging challenges of terrorism, naxalism and insurgency; and

(c) if so, what concrete measures in this regard have been taken and by what time it will be functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) The Prime Minister in the Conference of Directors General of Police/Inspectors General of Police and Chiefs of Central Police Organisations held on 22-23.11.2008, suggested establishment of Task Force which should initiate a 100 days plan to develop an integrated capability to address emerging challenges in areas such as Left Wing Extremism (LWE), terrorism and insurgency; improve the ability to anticipate and prevent surprises, through closely networked intelligence collaboration and upgradation of both human and technological intelligence; create an awareness regarding the critical importance of strategic foresight in regard to social and political developments; develop a net-centric information command structure that enables States and Central agencies to access and exploit information in a secure manner and

††The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri V. Hanumantha Rao.

well in time; strengthen inter-state and inter-agency cooperation; and ensure innovation and technological leadership. The Task Force with suitable representation from the Central and State agencies, should come out with a road map regarding the detailed steps to be taken immediately as also the subsequent steps to be taken over the next several months so as to translate the visions of an integrated net-centric capability into reality.

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Sir, whether the Supreme Court has all along been urging both the Central and the State Government to revamp the police force in the country to meet the threats posed by the extremists, with modern weapons and modern technology being used by these extremists, which was evident in the recent Mumbai attacks. Sir, my question is, if so,...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would request the hon. Member to ask the question, and, not to make a statement and then ask the question.

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Sir, before that, I want to explain as to what is my view. Otherwise,...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just ask the question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: So, I am asking, Sir. If so, whether, at least, now, the Union Government is considering providing help and assistance to the State Governments in modernising the police force so that they will be able to meet the situation like the Mumbai attacks and terror threats.

श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल: माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य को आपके माध्यम से बतलाना चाहता हूं कि देश के प्रत्येक राज्य में पुलिस मौडर्नाइजेशन स्कीम के तहत हम पैसा देते हैं कि राज्य सरकारें अपनी पुलिस को मौडर्नाइज्ड करें। इसके अलावा जिन-जिन राज्यों को जरूरत पड़ती है, हम उनको पैरा मिलट्री फोर्स प्रोवाइड करते हैं जो नक्सल प्रभावित राज्य हैं या जहां पर किसी भी तरह की कोई हिंसा होती है तो हम उनको पैरा मिलिट्री फोर्स देते हैं। इसके अलावा पुलिस मौडर्नाइजेशन स्कीम के अन्तर्गत 2003-2004 में 705 करोड़ रुपया भारत सरकार ने दिया था, 2004-2005 में 960 करोड़ दिया था, 2005-2006 में 1025 करोड़ दिया है, 2006-2007 में 1065 करोड़ दिया है और 2007-2008 में 1249 करोड़ रुपया दिया है। इसके अलावा हमने पुलिस मौडर्नाइजेशन स्कीम के तहत राज्य सरकारों से यह कहा है कि वे इंडिया रिजर्व बटालियन रेज करें। इंडिया रिजर्व बटालियन में भी हमने उनसे कहा है कि वे कमांडो फोर्स का एक प्रतिशत निर्धारित कर दें, जो कमांडो फोर्स तैयार हो। हम अपने यहां भी पैरा मिलिट्री फोर्स में, सी0आर0पी0एफ0 में कमांडो फोर्स तैयार कर रहे हैं। राज्य सरकारों का जो रेस्पांस आ रहा है वह भी करीब-करीब उचित है। कई राज्य सरकारों ने कहा है कि हम अलग से भी अपनी कमांडो फोर्स तैयार कर रहे हैं। हम अपनी पैरा मिलिट्री फोर्स में कोबरा फोर्स भी तैयार कर रहे हैं। इसलिए माननीय सदस्य को मैं एश्योर करना चाहता हूं कि देश की आंतरिक सुरक्षा के लिए राज्यों की कानून और व्यवस्था के लिए, नक्सल प्रोब्लम के लिए, टेरोरिज्म के लिए जो कुछ भी किया जा सकता है, भारत सरकार राज्य सरकारों के सहयोग से कर रही है और राज्य सरकारों का भी रेस्पांस इस तरह का है कि यह मानना चाहिए कि राज्य सरकारें भी भारत सरकार की तरह पूरी तरह से इस तरह के आतंक का मुकाबला करने के लिए अपने को खड़ा करने का प्रयास कर रही हैं।

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Sir, my second supplementary is, whether during the recent Mumbai attacks, our intelligence was not up to the mark and there was no coordination between the various agencies. Earlier, due to the haphazard functioning of the IB, the Central

Government had asked the IB to come out with a 10-year perspective plan indicating the requirement in terms of manpower and funds. Whether the Ministry faced a major gap existing therein in the working of the primary intelligence agency of the country; (b) whether the Home Ministry convened a high-level meeting with the IB Chiefs, attended by senior officers of the Home Ministry, and, the IB; and, (c) if so, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One question please. Otherwise, the Minister will have the choice of answering any of your (a)(b)(c)s.

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Sir, now, only (c) is there.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then, just ask 'c' please.

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: What were the main points discussed and what action the IB has formulated for the 10-Year Plan.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, the Government made a statement on the Mumbai terrorist attack in which we said that there are gaps in intelligence gathering and intelligence sharing. I have assured both the Houses that these are under my examination. My meetings with the chiefs of the intelligence agencies are now, as is well know, daily meetings. We review a number of things, and, I think that in the course of next few weeks, there will be much better intelligence gathering and intelligence sharing. We recognize the problem and we are addressing the problem.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, in the background of Mumbai attack, I would like to know whether the hon. Minister bears in mind that 7,500 kilometers coastline spreads over nine States and four Union Territories. I would like to know what arrangements he is making to safeguard the security in these areas.

Secondly, I would like to know what is the proposal with regard to the federal terror agency and what is the status of the same. I am very happy that recently the Prime Minister held a conference of Director Generals of Police, Inspector Generals of Police and Central police officers. They decided to set up a Task Force within 100 days with participation of Central and State agencies. What is the status of that? By what time can we expect the setting up of the Task Force?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, a number of decisions have already been taken and shared with this House. One of them is to set up a Coastal Command, and the mandate of the Coastal Command will be to protect India's coastline. The Ministry of Defence has been requested to prepare the plan. Shortly, it will come up before the Cabinet or the appropriate Cabinet Committee for approval. The Coastal Command will be set up.

As regards the Task Force announced by the Prime Minister, that was made on the 23rd of November. Since then, of course, Mumbai terrorists attacks took place. Many decisions have been taken on an emergent basis. So, many of the matters that were to be considered by the

Task Force have since been considered on an emergent basis and many decisions have been announced. I would request the hon. Member to kindly refer to the Statement that was made in this House. A number of decisions have been announced. One of them is setting up of the National Investigating Agency. The Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha yesterday. I expect the Bill to be taken up in the Lok Sabha today. Once the Lok Sabha votes on the Bill it will be brought before this House.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, as a matter of fact, the questions 222, 223 and 228 are related to one another. They could have been clubbed into one and then the Home Minister would have been addressing all the questions together. Anyway, the question is that the Prime Minister has also suggested for having separate ATSs for each of the North Eastern States. He told that, if you remember, in a conference held in Agartala. So, the question is, whether each of these States has set up these ATSs because it is a very serious problem in North Eastern States. And, if not, how long will it take to set up such ATSs? If yes, what is the progress of those ATSs. Number two ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Joshi, one question please.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: It is the part of the same question. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have objected to a,b,c, not to 'one' and 'two'. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think, the same objection holds. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Even if you have objection to 'two', I say it 'second'. Anyway, it is the part of the same thing. Whether this ATS and the Task Force will coordinate; whether they will be under the ATS or will be under the Task Force, or, whether they will be separate agencies and will create difficulties in coordination. It will be, say, just perfunctory, yes, you have ATSs and you have Task Force. I mean to say, you must have clarity. How are you going to deal with the situation in North East? And, how is it related to the rest of India? Is it separate from the rest of India? Or, is it a part of the same problem? Then, whether this Task Force will look to that and whether these ATSs will work under this Task Force. These are the questions that this House would like to know in order to understand the functioning of the Ministry and the Government because we want a complete assurance especially now on the North Eastern side.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the ATS is an anti terrorist squad and the name itself differs from State to State. The idea is that within the police establishment, there should be a well-trained and well-equipped force to prevent, investigate and punish terrorist crimes. In Maharashtra, it is called ATS. In many other States, it goes by different names.

We are of the view that every State should have a dedicated group of police team which focuses on terrorists, and prevention, investigation and punishment of terrorist crimes. We are

willing to help them, and we have made a beginning by saying that we will set up regional hubs for the NSG, which will serve as a commando force, and, pending setting up of more regional hubs, we will use the commando forces of other paramilitary forces. All that, as I said, is being worked out and will be implemented in a very short time frame. I can assure the hon. Member and other hon. Members that it will be implemented in a very short time frame.

As far as the question of the North-East is concerned....*(Interruptions)*...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, would you allow the use of 'very' and 'short'?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please let the hon. Minister complete his answer.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: We want something very specific. Is it one month; or is it fifteen days; or is it two months?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I am sorry, I cannot. The hon. Member had been a Minister in the Government for many years. I cannot give a time frame for these matters. All I am saying is that we are implementing it as expeditiously as possible and as soon as we are able to raise the commando forces. ...*(Interruptions)*... As I said, in a short time frame.

As far as the North-East is concerned, Sir, it is a very grave situation there, and it is a very serious situation there. It is not enough to simply set up an anti-terrorism squad or an anti-terrorist force. It has to be addressed in a more comprehensive manner. As the hon. member is aware, there is a further question down the list.

There are Indian insurgent groups which are the cause of militancy and terrorist actions in the North-East. These Indian insurgent groups seek safe havens in Bangladesh and Myanmar. Therefore, the problem is a larger one and has wider ramifications.

As I said in the other House when I made a statement on bomb blasts in Assam, all these matters are under my examination, and we will have a comprehensive plan to tackle the problem of militancy and terrorism in the North-East.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, the question and answer referred to left-wing extremism and naxalism. I would like to ask a specific question. I do not agree with the strategy or method adopted by naxalites. But I do not agree at all with the counter-strategy pursued by the Government. For instance, they constituted Salwa Judum.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Who constituted it?

SHRI D. RAJA: I am saying the State Government. That is why I am raising this issue, so that the Home Minister should listen to it. The State Government of Chhattisgarh constituted Salwa Judum to fight naxalites. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: It is the people's movement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. Let the hon. Member continue.

SHRI D. RAJA: Let me ask the question. Then you can ask. The point here is that the Supreme Court has indicted the constitution of Salwa Judum. The Planning Commission has

indicted the functions of Salwa Judum. In this connection, I would like to ask whether the Central Government would like to advise the State Government to dismantle Salwa Judum forthwith and release Dr. Binayak Sen who has been kept in prison for no reasons and in contravention of the human rights of this country. I asked a specific question and I want a specific answer form the Minister.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, there are a couple of aspects which the hon. Member himself referred to in the question.

One, this organisation called Salwa Judum is an organisation which apparently has the support of the State Government. The Central Government has nothing to do with the organisation.

Secondly, this is a matter which is now under consideration by the Supreme Court. So, I am not in a position to pronounce one way or other on the legality or illegality of the issues involved. I am sure that the Supreme Court will consider all these issues. If the Supreme Court asks the Central Government to furnish any information or provide any assistance, we will be happy to do so.

SHRI D. RAJA: What is the stand of the Union Government?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: The Union Government's stand has been very clear. We are not in favour of non-State actors taking law enforcement in their hands. We think that the law enforcement must be the responsibility of the State Government and the State Police.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Prakash Javadekar, please don't intervene. Let the Minister complete.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I am answering on behalf of the Government. He cannot object to my answer. I am answering on behalf of the Government. He can't take exception to an answer on behalf of the Government. We believe that law and public order is a matter for the State Government and the State police authorities. We do not approve of non-State actors taking this responsibility. In the case of Dr. Vinayak Sen, the matter is being brought to my notice. It is under my consideration.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, Sir. The challenge or the crisis or the problem of terrorism, naxalism or insurgency has been in existence in this country for quite long. It is a matter of fact that it is aggravating rather than abating. The Minister has listed out various measures to control and contain. But I would like to know whether there is a system failure or human failure or both. In other words, if it is not a failure, whether it is adequate or inadequate. Secondly, according to me, there is a lack of political will and there is a lack of executive skill. Political will is lacking, executive skill is lacking. That is why they are not able to control the situation.

Lastly, my specific question is, the hon. Minister has been kind enough to come to the press to say that there is a clear lapse of intelligence. Okay. When the Minister has been emphatic and categorical to say that it is a lapse on the part of the intelligence, I am inclined to

ask one thing. The Minister is a lawyer. According to vicarious liability, if it is a lapse on the part of the intelligence, it is a lapse on the part of the Government. Will he concede that it is a lapse on the part of the Government?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the hon. Member has been a very senior civil servant and administrator, and now I know is also an exceptionally skilled debater. I can hardly match him in debate. I said in Mumbai and I said in this House and I say this with a sense of responsibility and regret. But I don't think you should add to what I said. What I said is, there were gaps and there are gaps in intelligence gathering and intelligence sharing. Since we are the Government, it happened under our watch, we take responsibility. I said so. And so I also told the people of Mumbai, I am sorry for what happened. Now, these are matters under my consideration and I have said, "We will make every effort to fill these gaps, to improve both intelligence gathering and intelligence sharing." More than this, I don't think you expect me to say at this stage.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Q.No. 223.

Fundamentalist organisations operating through NER

*223. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several fundamentalist organisations, like Huji and others, are operating through North East Region (NER) to destabilize India;

(b) if so, the details of such organisations and their activities; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent such activities and to safeguard the common population in NER as well as the country?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) and (b) There have been reports that some insurgent groups from the North Eastern region have links with external elements and the fundamentalist/terrorist organisations, including Bangladesh based Harakt-Ul-Jehad-Islami (HUJI), which in turn is reported to have links with Pakistan based terrorist groups and Pakistani ISI. There are also reports that terrorist organizations, such as, Lashker-e-Tayyaba (LeT) and HUJI have been using the territory of Bangladesh for infiltration/exfiltration and carrying out terrorist activities in India.

(c) The Government remains firmly committed to countering the challenge posed by terrorism. Towards this end, a multi-pronged strategy is being pursued, in close co-operation with the State Governments, which involves measures to check infiltration from across the borders, deployment of Central Security Forces in areas prone to terrorist violence, continuous vigilance and strengthening of security arrangements in vulnerable areas and around vital installations, sharing of intelligence, strengthening of State Police Forces and up-gradation of their capabilities to deal with terrorist activities through the schemes of Police Modernization and